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	EUR-00	UTED-00	VCI-00	H-00	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00
	LAB-01	VCIE-00	NSAE-00	OIC-00	NIMA-00	PA-00	PER-00
	GIWI-00	SP-00	SSO-00	SS-00	NCTC-00	FMP-00	DSCC-00
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SUBJECT: ICCPR - PREPARATIONS FOR JULY MEETING WITH U.N.
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

1. This is an action request. See paragraph 2.
2. Mission is requested to transmit to the Secretariat the text in paragraph 3 regarding preparations for the July 17-18 U.S. session before the Human Rights Committee.

3. Begin text.

(Complimentary opening) and refers to the Secretary General,s letter of March 31, 2006 regarding the United States report of its implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its upcoming meeting with the Human Rights Committee on July 17 and 18, 2006.

The United States is pleased to work collaboratively with the Human Rights Committee and the Secretariat staff to make the July session productive and informative. As part of this effort, the United States will be sending a very large, high-level interagency delegation to the meetings in Geneva. As discussed in the working lunch with the Chairman of the Committee referred to in the Secretary General,s note, the

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various commitments by members of this delegation make it impossible to agree for that delegation to be available for a third session, and the Government of the United States appreciates the Committee's understanding on this issue. As further discussed at that luncheon, the United States will be scrupulous in staying within the time limits set by the Committee during the two sessions, to make sure that there is adequate time available to have a thorough discussion of the issues of concern to the Committee.

As the Secretariat is aware, the United States Government will be presenting to the Committee Against Torture its report on its implementation of the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in May of 2005. As the U.S. government participants in that meeting and the July session are similar and as providing concise and complete responses to the complex issues raised by the Committee involves an intensive and deliberative process within the U.S. government, it will be difficult for the United States to guarantee that its written answers will be available three weeks in advance of the July hearing. That said, the United States will work diligently to provide those answers as much in advance of the July session as is possible. As United States delegation members discussed with the Committee Chairman at the working lunch, the United States will probably not be in a position to provide its answers in French and Spanish, and it understands that no country has yet provided such answers to the Committee in three languages.

The United States will be pleased to inform the Secretary General in writing of the names and titles of the representatives who will represent the United States at the July session.

The United States looks forward to an informative and productive exchange of information and perspectives with the Human Rights Committee in the July meetings and is committed to working collaboratively with the Committee to make that session a success.

(Complimentary closing)

End text.
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